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STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER
RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL
ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL
COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

Special emergency assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of Burundi

Report of the Secretary-General

I. INTRODUCTION

1. The present report is submitted in pursuance of General Assembly resolutions 49/7 of 25 October and 49/21 C of 2 December 1994.

2. In its resolution 49/7, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in close collaboration with the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, to continue their efforts to normalize the situation in Burundi, to mobilize resources for that purpose, to ensure the implementation of the resolution and to report to the Assembly at its fiftieth session. The Assembly also fully endorsed the wish of the heads of State and Government of African countries to convene a regional conference on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region. It invited the international community to become fully involved by providing substantial technical and financial support for the early implementation of the plan of action to be produced by a regional conference.

3. In its resolution 49/21 C, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General, in close cooperation with the Secretary-General of OAU, to coordinate



the activities being implemented by the United Nations system to meet the needs of the people of Burundi adequately and to mobilize the assistance of the international community. The Assembly also requested the Secretary-General to report to it at its fiftieth session on the implementation of the resolution.

4. The present report contains the information received by the United Nations as at the end of August 1995 regarding the implementation of both resolutions 49/7 and 49/21 C.

II. LATEST POLITICAL DEVELOPMENTS

5. Although the situation in Burundi remains precarious and continues to be of great concern to the international community, the political instability of the past 16 months has not yet led to a full-scale armed confrontation. This is due in large part to the international presence, including that of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, representatives of Member States and representatives of United Nations agencies and non-governmental organizations.

6. Despite increasing attempts by extremists to disrupt life throughout the country, the country's governmental institutions, agricultural sector, schools, banks, telephone communications and public transport have continued to function.

7. Throughout the period under review, the Security Council has repeatedly deplored the actions of extremists. Extremists on both sides, inside and outside Burundi, have not disarmed and continue to destabilize the Government in order to implement their own agenda. A fresh outbreak of violence in Bujumbura in June 1995 led to the announcement by President Sylvestre Ntibantunganya of new security measures, but these were rejected by the Parliament, as the Front pour la démocratie au Burundi (FRODEBU) majority voted against them.

8. There has been some progress in the preparation of the national debate planned to advance reconciliation in the country and scheduled to take place in November-December 1995. It is encouraging that one year after the signing on 10 September 1994 of the Convention of Government by 12 political parties not a single party has withdrawn from this basic agreement promoting peace, security and power-sharing between the Hutu and Tutsi communities.

9. The presence in northern Burundi of approximately 200,000 Rwandan refugees adds to the complexity of the situation. There have been a number of armed incursions into Burundi from the Rwandan refugee camps located in eastern Zaire. In addition, there are about 500,000 internally displaced persons in Burundi, most of them Hutus.

III. INTERNATIONAL EFFORTS TO NORMALIZE THE SITUATION IN BURUNDI

A. Activities of the United Nations system

1. The Secretary-General and the Office of the Special Representative for Burundi

10. Since his appointment in November 1993, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for Burundi has actively promoted national reconciliation in the country through numerous and constant contacts with all the parties concerned. After all the political parties, with the exception of the Parti pour le redressement national (PARENA), signed a power-sharing Convention of Government, the Special Representative of the Secretary-General sponsored many projects, promoting a permanent dialogue among the various political actors and others within civil society, which have helped lessen tensions in the country. These projects, organized by the mission alone or in cooperation with other United Nations entities and non-governmental organizations, have included seminars on human rights, an exchange of delegations between Burundi and South Africa, parliamentarian and other missions from Europe, Africa and the United States of America, and so on.

11. Cooperation with OAU in the field occurs daily. Examples of this include a plan for a rapprochement between the Burundian Army and the civil population, which was initiated and financed by the mission and implemented by OAU, and the invitation of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General to participate in a meeting of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution at Addis Ababa on 10 and 11 September 1995.

12. Radio broadcasts that inflame ethnic hatreds and undermine national reconciliation efforts are of serious concern. The mission has repeatedly asked Member States to help silence inflammatory broadcasts of Radio Démocratie (formerly "Rutomorangingo"), especially in Kirundi. The mission has so far been unable to obtain the required assistance.

2. Security Council

13. During the period under review, the Security Council remained seized of the issue and has been regularly briefed on developments in Burundi. Concerned over the lack of progress towards the stabilization of the situation, the Council has repeatedly issued presidential statements deploring the violence and calling on the extremists to refrain from activities that will destabilize the country.

14. The Council dispatched to Burundi two fact-finding missions, one on 13 and 14 August 1994 and the other on 10 and 11 February 1995. Both missions met and consulted with important national leaders, including the leadership of the security forces, heads of political parties and members of the diplomatic corps. The mission also met with representatives of OAU, non-governmental organizations and United Nations agencies active in Burundi. The missions recommended the establishment of an international commission of inquiry into the October 1993 attempted coup, in order to break the cycle of impunity. They also recommended, inter alia, that assistance be provided to the Government of Burundi to build an

impartial judicial system, that civilian police be trained and that the number of OAU observers be increased. The missions encouraged the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to deploy human rights monitors, provided their security could be guaranteed.

15. The Secretary-General visited Bujumbura on 16 and 17 July 1995. He met and held discussions with Burundi leaders. In his address to the Parliament of Burundi, he stressed that Burundian society should adhere to the principles of the 1992 Constitution and the 1994 Convention of Government. He also emphasized that all parties should work jointly towards the convening of a national debate to put an end to the tragic confrontation that has devastated Burundi.

16. Acting upon the request of the Government of Burundi calling for the establishment of an international judicial commission of inquiry, the Secretary-General dispatched a Special Envoy, Mr. Pedro Nikken, to Bujumbura from 28 June to 9 July to discuss with the Government options for addressing the problem of impunity. The Special Envoy examined various options, including the establishment of a commission for the truth, and came to the conclusion that an international commission of inquiry could be a viable and a more appropriate approach.

17. In accordance with the recommendations of the Secretary-General (S/1995/631), the Security Council, by its resolution 1012 (1995) of 28 August 1995, established an international commission of inquiry to investigate the assassination of the President of Burundi on 21 October 1993 and the massacres and violence that followed. The commission is to be composed of five impartial and internationally respected jurists who would make recommendations to prevent any repetition of the violence, eradicate impunity and promote national reconciliation.

18. On 15 August 1995, the Security Council adopted resolution 1011 (1995) in part A of which it requested the Secretary-General to report on his efforts to prepare and convene a regional conference on security, stability and development in the Great Lakes region of Central Africa. On 25 August the Secretary-General appointed Ambassador José Luis Jesus of Cape Verde to be his Special Envoy to facilitate the preparation and convening of the conference. Ambassador Jesus is currently consulting the Governments of the region, including the Government of Burundi.

3. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

19. The presence in the Great Lakes region of about 2.5 million refugees, many of them armed, makes an already unstable situation more volatile. To address the multifaceted problems of refugees in the region, UNHCR and OAU jointly organized an International Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons, which was held at Bujumbura in February 1995. The result of the Conference was the adoption of a Plan of Action (see sect. IV of the present report).

4. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner
for Human Rights

20. This Office has given particular attention to the human rights situation in Burundi since May 1994. On 15 March 1994, an office was opened in Bujumbura to carry out programmes related to technical assistance and advisory services in the field of human rights.

21. The Commission on Human Rights in its resolution 1995/90 and the Security Council in its presidential statement of 9 March 1995 (S/PRST/1995/10) encouraged the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to consider, in consultation with the Government of Burundi and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General, the deployment of observers in the country, provided their security could be guaranteed. On 17 July, the President and the Prime Minister of Burundi welcomed the intended deployment of the first contingent of five observers in the capital. It is hoped that 10 observers will be deployed in Bujumbura in October 1995 and that the overall number will reach 35. The European Union (EU) is making arrangements for them.

22. The Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Burundi, Mr. Paulo Sérgio Pinheiro (Brazil), accompanied by two officials from the Centre for Human Rights, paid his first visit to Burundi from 21 June to 2 July.

23. The Special Rapporteur made certain preliminary findings during his visit: three to four military personnel are killed daily and approximately 200 civilians are killed each week, representing a total of 800 deaths a month. The inability of the Burundi authorities to take action is encouraging and perpetuating the impunity against which the procedure of the international judicial fact-finding mission provided for in the Convention on Governance seems to be the last resort.

B. Organization of African Unity

24. OAU has continued, in coordination with the international community, to pursue intensive political and diplomatic efforts to prevent further instability and civil strife in Burundi.

25. At its meeting on 27 March at Cairo, the Central Organ of the OAU Mechanism for Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution, meeting at the ministerial level, decided to send a ministerial delegation to Burundi to express concern over the continued loss of innocent life and the displacement of Burundi's population. The ministerial delegation visited Burundi on 12 April and again on 30 May for discussions with the country's leaders as to how OAU could assist in defusing tension, ending violence and insecurity, and sustaining political dialogue between the various groups in the country.

26. The mission held wide-ranging discussions with the leadership of Burundi. In the interim and as a further step reflecting the principled and determined effort of OAU to help stem Burundi's declining security conditions, the Central Organ of the Conflict Management Mechanism, meeting on 19 April at Tunis at the level of Heads of State and Government, increased the military component of the

OAU Mission in Burundi (OMIB) from 47 to 67 officers. It was also agreed that funds reserved for the civilian component of the Mission should be increased to enable it to deploy constitutional legal experts, human rights monitors and mediators, and to facilitate the process of dialogue and national reconciliation in Burundi. Measures have also been taken to ensure a regular OMIB presence in all provinces. The OMIB military teams have, among other things, (a) established a dialogue between local administrative and military authorities; (b) reactivated provincial and district-level security committees that had not been in use; (c) established security committees in all districts where they did not exist before; and (d) within the framework of the pacification campaign, participated in all field outings carried out by the national and regional authorities. In addition, despite limited means, OMIB doctors have worked substantially in local communities. These efforts have helped reduce suspicions and fears in the country.

27. At the recent thirty-first ordinary session of the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government, the situation in Burundi constituted one of the major areas of discussion. Confronted with the near permanent state of insecurity and killings in Burundi and the extreme polarization that characterizes inter-group relations in that country, the Assembly mandated its current Chairman, President Meles Zenawi of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, and Secretary-General Salim Ahmed Salim to convene, as a matter of urgency, a meeting of Burundi's political and military leaders at Addis Ababa to discuss the future of their country.

28. The OAU Assembly also requested the Central Organ at the ministerial level and the Secretary-General of OAU, who had visited Burundi several times in the course of 1994, to follow the situation closely and to explore the possibility of military intervention in cooperation with the United Nations, should the situation in Burundi degenerate into massive loss of life and displacement of innocent civilians. In that respect, it mandated the Central Organ to take decisions as appropriate.

29. Pursuant to the decision of its Assembly to convene a meeting of Burundi's political leaders at Addis Ababa, the Secretary-General of OAU dispatched a mission to Bujumbura to extend invitations to the participants. The mission was in Burundi from 8 to 12 July, meeting with a cross-section of political leaders and party representatives. The outcome was mixed. FRODEBU and the majority parties had no problems with Addis Ababa as the proposed venue; the Union pour le progrès national (UPRONA) and the opposition parties, however, indicated that they would only participate in such a meeting if it were held at Bujumbura. They emphasized that convening the meeting at Addis Ababa would only serve to internationalize their country's problems.

30. Given the reaction of the opposition parties regarding Addis Ababa, the meeting would not have produced the kind of participation that was envisaged by OAU and would consequently not have produced positive results. In view of the foregoing and of the fact that conditions at Bujumbura were not propitious for the convening of such a meeting, the proposed meeting scheduled for 27 and 28 July was called off.

31. Subsequently, a delegation led by a Special Envoy of the Chairman of OAU, including representatives of the Secretary-General of OAU, departed for the Great Lakes region on 11 August for consultations with leaders of the neighbouring countries and Burundi to discuss the next course of action. The delegation visited Zambia, Kenya, the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Zaire and Rwanda. An extraordinary session of the foreign ministers of the Central Organ was scheduled and took place on 11 September at Addis Ababa to deliberate on the situation in Burundi.

IV. REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON ASSISTANCE TO REFUGEES, RETURNEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS IN THE GREAT LAKES REGION AND ITS FOLLOW-UP

32. The sixtieth ordinary session of the OAU Council of Ministers, meeting at Tunis in June 1994, adopted a resolution (CM/RES/1527) calling for a regional conference on assistance to refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region. The United Nations General Assembly, at its forty-ninth session, adopted resolution 49/7, in which it endorsed the OAU resolution.

33. OAU and UNHCR jointly assumed the task of coordinating preparations for the Conference, including establishing a Preparatory Committee under their co-chairmanship. In addition to OAU and UNHCR, the Preparatory Committee is comprised of representatives of Burundi, Kenya, Rwanda, Tunisia (the current Chairman of OAU), Uganda, the United Republic of Tanzania, Zaire and Zambia, EU, observers to the Arusha Peace Process (Belgium, France, Germany and the United States of America), Canada, the Netherlands, the Nordic countries, as well as the secretariat of the Economic Community of the Great Lakes Countries and various observers. The Preparatory Committee held three meetings, two at Addis Ababa and the last at Bujumbura, before the Conference itself.

34. The Conference was planned:

(a) To highlight the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the region;

(b) To consider the following with regard to the repatriation and safety of refugees and returnees:

(i) How to guarantee security and order within the camps;

(ii) How to devise and implement plans for the safe return of refugees and safe integration of returnees and displaced persons;

(iii) The roles of the countries of asylum and countries of origin in promoting and facilitating repatriation;

(c) To sensitize the international community to the adverse socio-economic and environmental impact of the problem of refugees and displaced persons in the region;

(d) To address the root causes of the problem of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the region and to find durable solutions;

(e) To examine the impact of the civilian population caused by the presence of military personnel and militia in refugee camps and settlements, and to formulate plans to guarantee security in the camps;

(f) To mobilize resources in support of the affected countries in order to strengthen their economic and social infrastructures and to redress the environmental damage;

(g) To appeal to the international community to provide material and human resources to assist the refugees, returnees and displaced persons;

(h) To appeal to the international organizations and agencies that have programmes in the region to mobilize additional resources in order to assist refugees, returnees and displaced persons.

35. The Conference was held at Bujumbura from 15 to 17 February 1995. It was co-chaired by the Secretary-General of OAU, Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Mrs. Sadako Ogata. The Conference was attended at the ministerial level by representatives from over 40 countries. Representatives from international organizations and non-governmental organizations also attended.

36. The Conference reviewed the social, economic and political consequences of the presence of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the Great Lakes region. Noting the high number of refugees, returnees and displaced persons and that the refugees were mainly in camps in Zaire, Rwanda, Burundi and Uganda, the Conference reaffirmed that the right of return applies to all refugees.

37. The Conference stressed that the problem of refugees and displaced persons in the region had reached alarming proportions, calling into question the very survival of hundreds of thousands of persons and threatening the stability of countries in the region. The adverse effects on the development of affected countries of the continued presence of refugees and persistent movements of displaced persons were also a source of great concern, in particular the situation of many refugees and displaced women and the tragically large numbers of unaccompanied children.

38. The Conference adopted a Plan of Action outlining a strategy for the peaceful resolution of the problem of displacement in the Great Lakes region, including the voluntary return and reintegration of refugees and internally displaced persons. The Plan included measures of various types.

(a) Measures to be taken in and/or by the countries of origin

39. Burundi and Rwanda were urged to create conditions conducive to the voluntary repatriation of refugees and the return of displaced persons to their places of habitual residence under conditions of safety and dignity.

(b) Measures to be taken in and/or by the countries of asylum

40. The Conference reaffirmed the humanitarian character of granting asylum to refugees, urging the countries hosting refugees from the Great Lakes region to continue to grant asylum to and assist refugees in accordance with relevant conventions relating to the status of refugees. Attention was also drawn to the fact that the granting of asylum should not be seen as an unfriendly or hostile act, but as a responsibility and an obligation under international law.

(c) Measures to be taken by the international community

41. The Conference expressed appreciation for the humanitarian programmes financed and undertaken by various countries, United Nations agencies, in particular UNHCR, intergovernmental organizations, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies and non-governmental organizations. However, the magnitude and persistence of the problem placed great demands on all concerned. Additional material resources were required to provide urgent relief to the refugees and displaced persons, whose very survival remains a major concern. The assistance was considered temporary, in anticipation of the early repatriation of refugees.

42. The Conference also requested the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) to hold a donor's round table on countries of the region that have been affected by the presence of refugees and displaced persons. The round table would provide a framework for coordinated and integrated approaches.

43. The Conference established a Follow-up Committee, which held its first meeting, co-chaired by OAU and UNHCR, on 26 May at OAU headquarters at Addis Ababa. The meeting noted that very little progress had been made in the implementation of the Plan of Action and that in some areas, such as repatriation and asylum, the situation had deteriorated. None the less, the meeting reaffirmed the validity of the Plan of Action as a framework for humanitarian action in favour of refugees, returnees and displaced persons in the region. The following was thus agreed at the meeting:

(a) That the follow-up process of the Bujumbura Conference should continue;

(b) That political consultations and discussions by all parties should be encouraged in order to promote political accommodation;

(c) That the convening of an international conference on peace, security and development in the region, as proposed by the Secretary-General of the United Nations and encouraged by the Security Council, would provide an impetus to humanitarian action in the region.

44. The Follow-up Committee is expected to meet again at Addis Ababa in October to address the following issues among others:

(a) How to improve stability in both Burundi and Rwanda;

(b) How to help all parties in Burundi implement the Convention on power-sharing and how to isolate the extremists and halt the proliferation of militias and the flow of arms in the country;

(c) How to create an atmosphere that would encourage the return of refugees and also halt the intimidation, disappearance and killings of refugees returning to Rwanda;

(d) How to promote reconciliation as well as justice.

45. In connection with preparations for a round table in accordance with paragraph 33 of the Plan of Action, in April 1995, UNHCR and UNDP agreed that the preparation of subregional consultations with donors should be a joint UNHCR/UNDP undertaking, in close consultation with OAU. In that connection, UNDP dispatched a preliminary mission to the subregion, which identified priority needs, gauged the response of the donor community to a call for financial assistance and other forms of support, and assisted in the preparation of the terms of reference for a more comprehensive needs assessment and programme project identification and formation mission. One important finding of the preliminary mission confirmed the likelihood of an environmental catastrophe in the subregion, should the current trends continue unabated.

46. UNDP and UNHCR, in close collaboration with OAU, agreed to dispatch the comprehensive needs assessment and programme project identification and formulation mission in September 1995. The mission will concentrate on the areas in Zaire and the United Republic of Tanzania most severely affected by the presence of refugees in order to identify and formulate programmes and projects that could alleviate the impact of the mass influx of the refugees on the already fragile environment of those countries. The impact of displaced persons in Rwanda and Burundi on the local environment and the social and economic infrastructure will be addressed in the context of the round-table conference for the two countries and its follow-up. The mission will also elaborate a medium- and long-term comprehensive, multisectoral, national and regional approach; mobilize resources and identify regional, national and local coordination mechanisms to implement, monitor and evaluate immediate and long-term rehabilitation and development activities.

47. The types of programmes the mission will formulate for immediate implementation would assess the impact of refugees on the environment and on social and economic infrastructure, including their impact on the sustainable livelihood of local communities. The mission will establish priority programmes and activities as an immediate response to problems such as deforestation, deterioration of social and economic infrastructure, energy and water shortages, pollution, insecurity and the marginalization of certain groups. The mission will also prepare a comprehensive plan of operation for the programmes, addressing financial requirements, implementation arrangements and a timetable.

V. ASSISTANCE FOR THE ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND RECONSTRUCTION
OF BURUNDI

48. Most of the countries' contributions earmarked for humanitarian, economic, technical, human rights and other assistance to Burundi have been channelled through the United Nations consolidated appeal for persons affected by the crisis in Rwanda or as pledges and contributions to the Rwanda/Burundi emergency (see A/50/654).

49. The summary of activities below reflects the concrete response of the United Nations system in providing assistance for the economic recovery and reconstruction of Burundi.

A. United Nations Development Programme

50. In May 1994, UNDP approved the continuum programme for Burundi of close to \$3.4 million. The support to the coordination of humanitarian assistance and the rehabilitation, reconstruction and economic revival programme covers a wide range of emergency and developmental needs, from peace initiatives to sectoral development. This UNDP programme supports a number of initiatives relevant to General Assembly resolution 49/21 C.

51. UNDP is also helping the Government of Burundi plan reconstruction and developmental projects. Together with the World Bank, UNDP has jointly sponsored decentralized seminars to develop reconstruction and rehabilitation plans for each region, which have now been agreed at a national level as part of decentralized approaches to development activities and will be implemented with the assistance of United Nations Volunteers (UNVs).

52. Current technical assistance initiatives include:

(a) A cooperative initiative with WHO to provide technical assistance to support the rehabilitation of the health system and, in the absence of qualified local personnel, to deploy UNVs to help staff the health clinics;

(b) Cooperative efforts with the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) to provide technical assistance in the rehabilitation of agricultural production and to establish an integrated rural development programme;

(c) Cooperative initiatives with the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) to study the situation of female victims of violence;

(d) Mobilization of joint teams of national and international volunteers, working with local communities, to plan and implement rehabilitation activities and strengthen local skills and capacity.

53. UNDP, working with the Government, is attempting to establish a network of committees at the provincial level to serve as a catalyst for the participation of local communities in resolving conflicts and preventing the escalation of

violence. UNDP is also providing workshops on conflict resolution and reconciliation to youth and women's groups.

54. As part of its efforts to prepare for the round table, UNDP is assisting the Government to create a system for the coordination of development aid from donors and multilateral agencies. In addition to working closely with United Nations bodies (WHO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UNV, UNCHR, the United Nations Capital Development Fund, FAO and the Department for Development Support and Management Services of the Secretariat) in the implementation of the continuum programme, UNDP is in close contact with the Special Representative of the Secretary-General and the Observer Mission and representative of OAU in Burundi.

B. Department of Humanitarian Affairs of the Secretariat

55. The humanitarian needs that surfaced after the events in October 1993 in Burundi were, to a very significant extent, met by September/October 1994. The general consensus of the relief community in Burundi is that the humanitarian crisis is over. However, health and educational services remain impaired by continuous ethnic turmoil, forcing the international community to set up parallel administrative structures. Dwindling international emergency resources and the absence of follow-up development assistance pose questions about the Government's capacity to provide basic services.

56. Given the problem in Burundi, the Department of Humanitarian Affairs undertook an assessment of the situation in March 1995. Noting the political nature of the conflict and the difficulties faced by the humanitarian partners in addressing the situation, the Department is in the process of seconding two humanitarian officers to the office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. These officers are to assist the Special Representative in the coordination of the international community's humanitarian efforts.

C. United Nations Children's Fund

57. UNICEF has spent over \$10 million over the past year in its efforts to reinforce the existing health network, including integrating preventive and curative health and nutritional services. It has also dealt with the water supply and environmental sanitation, supported basic and peace education and provided assistance to 8,000 unaccompanied children.

D. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

58. In addition to providing its standard assistance to approximately 200,000 refugees, UNHCR has assisted 220,000 returnees and displaced persons and 5,000 urban poor. Secondary school education for refugees is also provided and repatriation operations for former refugees from and to Rwanda implemented. Approximately \$30 million has been raised for these tasks.

E. World Food Programme

59. WFP continues to provide emergency food supplies to 220,000 internally displaced persons and returnees, as well as 200,000 Rwandan refugees in Burundi, and 150,000 Rwandan and Burundian refugees in Zaire. The reduction in regional food availability has led WFP to implement an accelerated reintegration programme for the internally displaced.

F. Centre for Human Rights

60. In 1994, the United Nations Centre for Human Rights established a technical assistance project for Burundi, covering 1994-1996. Its objectives are to encourage the development in Burundi of an institutional infrastructure capable of creating conditions for the promotion and protection of human rights and peace. The project also promotes a culture of human rights through the education of government officials, political party leaders, socio-professional groups and the public at large. Having completed the activities planned for 1994, the 1995 programme includes activities in the diverse fields of justice, education and training, information and publications, the media and assistance to the police and the armed forces.

61. The human rights field office in Burundi received financial and administrative support from UNDP. The Centre for Human Rights coordinated its efforts with UNDP and UNESCO offices in Bujumbura to use a camp to educate youth on human rights and to hold a seminar on peace and reconstruction in Bujumbura from 10 to 12 October 1994. UNICEF assisted the Centre for Human Rights to publish a manual on human rights for children aged 6 to 11. It also helped produce various educational and training materials.

62. Cooperation with other United Nations agencies in Bujumbura include a joint project with UNDP regarding human rights education; a joint training seminar with the International Labour Organization (ILO) regarding human rights and population issues; joint projects with UNICEF related to youth training in the field of peace and human rights; and anticipated projects with UNESCO related to the promotion of women's issues.

G. World Health Organization

63. WHO is implementing a four-pronged assistance effort, totalling nearly \$3.9 million. The effort seeks to strengthen the National Epidemiological Surveillance Network, to assist in the prevention and control of communicable diseases and epidemics, to support the provision of health services to the most affected provinces and to aid in the prevention and control of sexually transmitted diseases.

H. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

64. FAO has concentrated its efforts on providing displaced persons, returnees and refugees with agricultural tool kits and seeds. In addition, the

Organization has assisted in reforestation and stock breeding. A total of \$12 million has been allocated for these tasks.

VI. RESPONSE FROM INDIVIDUAL MEMBER STATES ON THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF RESOLUTION 49/21 C

65. By the end of August 1995, the Secretary-General had received information regarding the implementation of resolution 49/21 C from two States.

A. Germany

66. The humanitarian emergency assistance of Germany provided through the Federal Foreign Office in 1994-1995 amounted to 1,522,178 deutsche mark (about \$1 million). Its bilateral financial and technical cooperation assistance through the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development amounted to DM 40.3 million (about \$27 million). As far as multilateral emergency aid is concerned, Germany contributed DM 41.3 million (about 27.8 million) to the international food aid programme for refugees in the Central African region in and around Rwanda and Burundi in 1995, and DM 7 million (about \$4.7 million) in 1995 for refugees in Burundi alone.

B. Switzerland

67. The Swiss assistance went mainly towards reconstruction in the areas of agriculture, health and justice. The main purpose of the assistance was to provide food and restore legal security in order to create conditions for the safe return of refugees to both Rwanda and Burundi. This was done through contributions to international organizations and national non-governmental organizations on the one hand and missions of the Swiss Disaster Relief Unit to the region on the other. The total assistance amounted to 33,614,750 Swiss francs (about \$25.2 million). Thirteen Swiss Disaster Relief Unit members are stationed in the region.

VII. CONCLUSIONS

68. The activities of OAU, agencies of the United Nations system and departments of the Secretariat have demonstrated a high degree of cooperation and coordination in dealing with the crisis in Burundi and its consequences.

69. It is evident that the Rwandan crisis has affected all the countries of the Great Lakes region, including Burundi. The international community should continue to give its constant attention to the present situation in the region. In that connection, the convening of the Regional Conference on Security, Stability and Development in the Great Lakes region has acquired a special significance.

70. The United Nations and OAU will have a special role of coordinating the efforts of all nations in the region willing to participate in the Conference

and to facilitate the process leading to its convening. The Conference is called upon to achieve a regional agreement among the countries of the region on measures to promote lasting security, stability and sustainable development in those countries, with particular reference to Burundi and Rwanda.

71. As stability cannot be achieved in the region if the problem of the 2 million refugees is not solved, full implementation by all countries in the region of the Plan of Action adopted by the Bujumbura Conference, including the creation of adequate political and security conditions for the safe return of refugees, remains a vital undertaking.

72. As far as the internal situation in Burundi is concerned, the international community, which has so far played a positive role in preventing a wider conflict there, should continue to coordinate its efforts so that the message to the political leaders of Burundi is consistent and unanimous. It is hoped that the planned national debate later in 1995 will help the parties move from confrontation and violence towards peace and reconciliation, while discouraging and deploring the actions of extremist elements.
